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EXAMINER

WEST, LEWIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2682

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/988,241

Applicant(s)

PAILA ET AL.

Examiner

Lewis G. West

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 25, 31, 32, 34, 37, 39, 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by McCormick et al (US 6,519,455).

Regarding claim 1, McCormick discloses a method for performing multicast session handover, comprising the steps of

(i) in a first cell, receiving from a base station corresponding to a first cell, multicast session information for a plurality of cells comprising the first cell and a second cell; (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

(ii) tuning to a multicast session in the first cell using the received multicast session information; (Col. 6 lines 30-64)

(iii) when a predetermined condition occurs, tuning to the multicast session in the second cell using the received multicast session information. (col. 8 lines 49-64)

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Regarding claim 3, McCormick discloses method of claim 37, wherein, in step (i), each multicast session information comprises a frequency. (Col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 5, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a signal strength fading. (Col. 7 lines 38-44)

Regarding claim 6, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that Aggarwal discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined condition comprises receiving predetermined user input. (col. 6 lines 17-29)

Regarding claim 9, Aggarwal discloses the method of claim 1, wherein, in step (i), the multicast session information comprises link-level access parameters corresponding to the first and second cells, wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise using the link-level access parameters to tune to the multicast session in each cell. (col. 17 line 55-col.18 line 20)

Regarding claim 11, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of periodically receiving multicast session announcements while tuned to the multicast session in the first cell. (Col. 5 lines 36-62)

Regarding claim 12, McCormick discloses a mobile terminal, comprising: a processor; and memory for storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the mobile terminal to perform steps of: (i) in a first cell, receiving from a base station corresponding to a first cell, multicast session information for a plurality of cells comprising the first cell and a second cell; (Col. 4 lines 6-62) (ii) tuning to a multicast session in the first cell using the received multicast session information; (Col. 6 lines 30-64) (iii) when a predetermined condition occurs, tuning to the multicast session in the second cell using the received multicast session information. (col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 14, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein, in step (i), each multicast session information comprises a frequency. (Col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 18, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein, in step (i), the multicast session information comprises link-level access parameters corresponding to the first and second cells, and wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise using the link-level access parameters to tune to the multicast session in each cell. (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

Regarding claim 20, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of periodically receiving multicast session announcements while tuned to the multicast session in the first cell. (Col. 5 lines 36-62)

Regarding claim 21, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein in step (iii) the predetermined condition comprises a signal strength fading. (Col. 7 lines 38-44)

Regarding claim 22, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that Aggarwal discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein in step (iii) the predetermined condition comprises receiving predetermined user input. (col. 6 lines 17-29)

Regarding claim 23, McCormick discloses a computer readable medium storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause a data processing device to perform the steps of

(i) in a first cell, receiving from a base station corresponding to a first cell, multicast session information for a plurality of cells comprising the first cell and a second cell; (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

(ii) tuning to a multicast session in the first cell using the received multicast session information; (Col. 6 lines 30-64)

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(iii) when a predetermined condition occurs, tuning to the multicast session in the second cell using the received multicast session information. (col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 25, McCormick discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein, in step (i), each multicast session information comprises a frequency. (Col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 29, discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein, in step (i), the multicast session information comprises link-level access parameters corresponding to the first and second cells, and wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise using the link-level access parameters to tune to the multicast session in each cell. (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

Regarding claim 31, McCormick discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of periodically receiving multicast session announcements while tuned to the multicast session in the first cell. (Col. 5 lines 36-62)

Regarding claim 32, McCormick discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein in step (iii) the predetermined condition comprises a signal strength fading. (Col. 7 lines 38-44)

Regarding claim 33, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that Aggarwal discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein in step (iii) the predetermined condition comprises receiving predetermined user input. (col. 6 lines 17-29)

Regarding claim 34, McCormick discloses a method for performing multicast session handover, comprising steps of:

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(i) tuning to a logical announcement channel; (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

(ii) receiving a session announcement corresponding to a multicast session, the session announcement comprising information that maps link-level access parameters in each of a plurality of cells to the multicast session: (Col. 6 lines 30-64)

(iii) receiving the multicast session in a first cell using the first cell's received link level access parameters; and (Col. 6 lines 30-64)

(iv) when reception of the multicast session in the first cell changes from a first signal strength, receiving the multicast session in a second cell using link-level access parameters contained in the session announcement. (col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 37, McCormick discloses a mobile terminal, comprising: a processor; and memory for storing computer readable instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the mobile terminal to perform steps of: (i) wirelessly receiving from a base station corresponding to a first cell, multicast session information for the first cell and multicast information for a second cell; (Col. 4 lines 6-62) (ii) wirelessly tuning to a multicast session broadcast by the base station corresponding to the first cell using the received multicast session information for the first cell; (Col. 6 lines 30-64) (iii) when a predetermined condition occurs, wirelessly tuning to a corresponding multicast session broadcast by a base station corresponding to the second cell using the received multicast session information for the second cell (col. 8 lines 49-64)

Regarding claim 39, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein, in step (i), each multicast session information comprises a frequency. (Col. 8 lines 49-64)

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Regarding claim 43, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein, in step (i), each multicast session information comprises link-level access parameters to tune to the multicast session in each respective cell. (Col. 4 lines 6-62)

Regarding claim 44, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of periodically receiving multicast session announcements while tuned to the multicast session in the first cell. (Col. 5 lines 36-62)

Regarding claim 45, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein in step (iii) the condition comprises a fading of signal strength of the first cell. (Col. 7 lines 38-44)

Regarding claim 46, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that the predetermined condition comprises receiving predetermined user input.

Aggarwal discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein in step (iii) the predetermined condition comprises receiving predetermined user input. (col. 6 lines 17-29)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 4, 10, 13, 15, 19, 24, 26, 30, 38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCormick in view of Aggarwal (US 6,154,463).

Regarding claim 2, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that the multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of cells in which the multicast session is available. Aggarwal discloses multicast session information comprising a session identifier and a list of cells in which the multicast session is available (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include session and cell information in order to determine potential hand off targets.

Regarding claim 4, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that the multicast session information comprises a session title. Aggarwal discloses a method wherein the multicast session information comprises a session title. (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a session title to ensure continuity of the same session during handover of the broadcast.

Regarding claim 10, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose joining an IP multicast group in the first cell. Aggarwal discloses a method, further comprising the step of joining an IP multicast group in the first cell. (col. 18 lines 52-67) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the method of McCormick in an IP multicast system in order to provide users roaming access to the internet which is a growing and widely used medium.

Regarding claim 13, McCormick discloses the method of claim 12 but does not expressly disclose that the multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of channels in which the multicast session is available. Aggarwal discloses a mobile terminal

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wherein multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of channels in which the multicast session is available. (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include session and cell information in order to determine potential hand off targets.

Regarding claim 15, the combination of McCormick and Aggarwal discloses the method of claim 13 wherein the multicast session information comprises a session title. (Aggarwal, col. 7 lines 31-42)

Regarding claim 19, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of joining an IP multicast group in the first cell. Aggarwal discloses a mobile terminal wherein the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of joining an IP multicast group in the first cell. (col. 18 lines 52-67) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the method of McCormick in an IP multicast system in order to provide users roaming access to the internet which is a growing and widely used medium.

Regarding claim 24, McCormick discloses the method of claim 23 but does not expressly disclose that the multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of channels in which the multicast session is available. Aggarwal discloses a computer readable medium, wherein the multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of channels in which the multicast session is available. (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include session and cell information in order to determine potential hand off targets.

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Regarding claim 26, McCormick discloses the method of claim 23 but does not expressly disclose a session title. Aggarwal discloses a computer readable medium, wherein the multicast session information comprises a session title. (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a session title to ensure continuity of the same session during handover of the broadcast.

Regarding claim 30, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that Aggarwal discloses a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable instructions further comprise the step of joining an IP multicast group in the first cell. (col. 18 lines 52-67) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the method of McCormick in an IP multicast system in order to provide users roaming access to the internet which is a growing and widely used medium.

Regarding claim 38, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that Aggarwal discloses a mobile terminal, wherein each multicast session information comprises a session identifier and a list of channels in which the multicast session is available. (col. 7 lines 31-42) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include session and cell information in order to determine potential hand off targets.

Regarding claim 40, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that each multicast session information comprises a session title Aggarwal discloses a mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein, each multicast session information comprises a session title. (col. 7 lines 31-42)

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6. Claims 7, 16, 27, 35 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCormick in view of Examiner's official notice .

Regarding claim 7, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1 but does not expressly disclose that in steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a digital video broadcast terrestrial (DVB-T) multicast session. Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well-known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability.

Regarding claim 16, McCormick discloses the method of claim 12 but does not expressly disclose that steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a digital video broadcast terrestrial (DVB-T) multicast session. Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability. Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability.

Regarding claim 27, McCormick discloses the method of claim 23 but does not expressly disclose that steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a digital video broadcast terrestrial (DVB-T) multicast session Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

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of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability.

Regarding claim 35, McCormick discloses the method of claim 34 but does not expressly disclose that steps (iii) and (v) comprise tuning to a digital video broadcast terrestrial (DVB-T) multicast session. Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability.

Regarding claim 41, McCormick discloses the method of claim 37 but does not expressly disclose that wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise wirelessly receiving a digital video broadcast terrestrial (DVB-T) multicast session. Examiner takes official notice that DVB-T is a well known and standard type of broadcast. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use DVB-T as a multicast format to insure standard operation and system interoperability.

7. Claims 8, 17, 28, 36 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCormick in view of Das et al.

Regarding claim 8, McCormick discloses the method of claim 1, wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a multicast session, but does not disclose UMTS. Das discloses a system with multicast handover that may be implemented in UMTS. (Paragraphs 0004, 0012) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a multicast handover method using UMTS, as UMTS is well known to be a developing standard that will support multimedia applications where multicast will be used.

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Regarding claim 17, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 12, wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a multicast session, but does not disclose UMTS. Das discloses a system with multicast handover that may be implemented in UMTS. (Paragraphs 0004, 0012) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a multicast handover method using UMTS, as UMTS is well known to be a developing standard that will support multimedia applications where multicast will be used.

Regarding claim 28, McCormick discloses the computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise receiving a multicast session, but does not disclose UMTS. Das discloses a system with multicast handover that may be implemented in UMTS. (Paragraphs 0004, 0012) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a multicast handover method using UMTS, as UMTS is well known to be a developing standard that will support multimedia applications where multicast will be used.

Regarding claim 36, McCormick discloses the method of claim 34, wherein steps (iii) and (v) comprise tuning to a multicast session, but does not disclose UMTS. Das discloses a system with multicast handover that may be implemented in UMTS. (Paragraphs 0004, 0012) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a multicast handover method using UMTS, as UMTS is well known to be a developing standard that will support multimedia applications where multicast will be used.

Regarding claim 42, McCormick discloses the mobile terminal of claim 37, wherein steps (ii) and (iii) comprise wirelessly receiving a multicast session, but does not disclose UMTS. Das discloses a system with multicast handover that may be implemented in UMTS. (Paragraphs 0004, 0012) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement

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a multicast handover method using UMTS, as UMTS is well known to be a developing standard that will support multimedia applications where multicast will be used.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis G. West whose telephone number is 703-308-9298. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 703-308-6739. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.



Lewis West
(703) 308-9298
October 19, 2003



VIVIAN CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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10/20/03